

Main Office
400 North Tampa Street, Suite 3200
Tampa, Florida 33602
813/274-6000
813/274-6200 (Fax)



Post Office Box 600
200 West Forsyth Street, Room 700
Jacksonville, Florida 32201
904/232-2682
904/232-2620 (Fax)

2110 First Street, Suite 3-137
Fort Myers, Florida 33901
941/461-2200
941/461-2219 (Fax)

U.S. Department of Justice
United States Attorney
Middle District of Florida

80 North Hughey Avenue, Room 201
Orlando, Florida 32801
407/648-7500
407/648-7643 (Fax)

Reply to: **Tampa**

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PRESS RELEASE

CHILD PORNOGRAPHER SENTENCED TO 108 MONTHS IMPRISONMENT

Tampa . . . Today, the United States District Court sentenced an Apopka resident to 108 months imprisonment regarding the transportation of child pornography and the solicitation of a minor to engage in sexual acts. JERRY TROXELL SMOTHERS, age 57 of Apopka, Florida, appeared before the Honorable Susan C. Bucklew and was sentenced on a Six-Count Indictment.

Count one of the Indictment charged that from on or about October 18, 2000 through December 4, 2000, in Tampa, Florida, Smother's knowingly attempted to induce, entice and coerce a minor to engage in a sexual act by using a computer. Count's Two through Six charged Smothers with shipping or transporting child pornography, on six different dates, by interstate commerce, using the Internet.

The case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigations, and prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney John F. Rudy, III.